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News Release

Ministry of Northern Development and Mines



Ontario

Northern Ontario
Heritage FundFonds du patrimoine
du Nord de l'Ontario

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Ontario Invests In Alternative Energy Sources - #955098

McGuinty Government Supports Wind Energy Project

SUDBURY – The McGuinty government is supporting an assessment study on wind powered energy for use by farmers in the Township of Tarbutt and Tarbutt Additional, Northern Development and Mines Minister Rick Bartolucci announced today.

“We are on the side of northerners. That is why we are making it possible for northern farmers to explore more efficient, alternative energy options,” said Bartolucci. “Our investment will allow local farmers in this community to determine the viability of using wind as an alternative energy source, which could result in reduced business costs and improved economic stability for the area.”

The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) will provide \$25,000 to complete a wind resource assessment study. The study will determine if there is enough wind to justify the purchase of wind powered turbine generators for six farmers in the area. Funds will be used for necessary permits, a 60-metre test tower with an appropriate data collection system, installation and servicing costs. Earlier this week, Bartolucci announced a new Northern Energy Program to help private and public sector partners pursue clean renewable energy generation capacity to reduce their demand on external energy sources or to produce energy for sale to the electrical grid.

“The NOHFC and its programs are designed to help northern businesses capitalize on cost-saving and innovative opportunities,” said Bartolucci, who is also chair of the NOHFC. “Investments such as this one are also an important step towards an environmentally responsible energy future.”

Other McGuinty government initiatives for northern communities include:

- Making an initial \$7 million available to help farmers and small rural businesses take early action to protect drinking water
- Contributing \$60 million annually to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund to support community and economic development.

These initiatives are part of the government's Northern Prosperity Plan for building stronger northern communities. The Northern Prosperity Plan has four pillars: Strengthening the North and its

Communities; Listening to and Serving Northerners Better; Competing Globally; and Providing Opportunities for All. Since 2003, investments in infrastructure, postsecondary education, research and innovation and key economic sectors have helped strengthen Ontario's economic foundations and continue to build opportunity.

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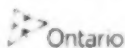
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